

11-23-2004

## The BG News November 23, 2004

Bowling Green State University

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**BATTLE OF 75:**  
Falcons face Toledo  
tonight, determine MAC  
playoff teams; **PAGE 9**

Bowling Green State University

# BG NEWS

A daily independent student press

**TUESDAY**  
November 23,  
2004

....  
**CLOUDY**  
HIGH: 54 | LOW: 42

www.bgnews.com  
VOLUME 99 | ISSUE 72

## Libertarian, Green parties for recount

Officials are split on a proposed recount, citing a potential for high costs.

By Terry Kinney  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Third-party candidates for president said they would sue in federal court yesterday to force a recount of Ohio ballots before returns are certified next week — prompting one election official to say he might mobilize fellow county to resist a recount.

"Counties are very upset," said Keith Cunningham, director of the Allen County Board of Elections and

incoming president of the Ohio Association of Election Officials, who called the lawsuit "frivolous."

"Commissioners are beginning to understand — and if they don't, will understand soon — what kind of financial impact this is going to have on them, in a year when elections already cost a great deal more than expected," said Cunningham, a Republican.

Libertarian Michael Badnarik and the Green Party's David Cobb said last week that they had raised more than \$150,000 to cover the state's fee for a recount. Ohio law requires payment of \$10 per precinct, or \$113,600 statewide, but election officials say the true expense

would be far greater.

"It's going to crush county governments," Cunningham said.

Carlo LoParo, spokesman for Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell, has estimated the actual cost at \$1.5 million.

Even though the two third-party candidates received a combined 0.26 percent of the vote in unofficial results, they contend a recount is necessary to ensure accuracy and that an immediate recount should begin, even though the official canvass is not complete.

Dan Trevas, spokesman for the Ohio Democratic Party, said the party would join in the recount request that would be filed as soon as the secretary

of state certified the results, or sooner if an early recount is ordered by a court.

Counties have until Dec. 3 to report official vote counts, and LoParo has said results will be certified by Dec. 6.

"There's no final count. There's no number from which to begin a recount," LoParo said.

The third-party candidates contend that would not allow enough time for a recount of Ohio's 5.5 million votes before the state's presidential electors meet Dec. 13.

"Nothing could be more important to our country than ensuring the results of the Ohio presidential election are accurate and complete," Cobb said. "Our faith and trust in the

democratic process all hinge on a fair, unbiased and transparent counting of ballots in Ohio."

That assertion offends Cunningham.

"The inference is that Ohio election officials will not count every vote," Cunningham said. "That's just insulting; it's frivolous and simply harassment."

Cunningham said he was consulting with officials in several counties before deciding whether to pursue legal action to prevent a recount.

"If, indeed, we are all forced to do the recount, the negative economic impact far outweighs any positive good that could come from this recount. My intention would be to attempt

to argue in court that it's time for the secretary of state to take a stand and attest that every vote is being counted by local boards."

LoParo had no comment about the intention by the third-party candidates to file the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Toledo. But he said there is no provision for a recount before the secretary of state certifies the final tallies from all 88 counties.

He said the state already is operating under an accelerated timetable because of the Dec. 13 meeting of presidential electors.

## Former president's jet crashes, 3 dead

By Juan A. Lozano  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — A private jet that was en route to Houston to pick up former President Bush clipped a light pole and crashed yesterday as it approached Hobby Airport in thick fog, killing all three people aboard.

The Gulfstream G-1159A jet, coming into Houston, went down about 6:15 a.m. in an undeveloped area 1 1/2 miles south of the airport, officials said. The former president had been scheduled to travel to Ecuador for a conference.

"I was deeply saddened to learn of the plane crash this morning," Bush said through spokesman Tom Frechette. "I'd flown with this group before and know them well."

"I join in sending heartfelt condolences to each and every member of their families."

The names of the three crew members were not immediately released.

Bush, was going to give a lecture for the Guayaquil, Ecuador, Chamber of Commerce, Frechette said, adding, "It's very sad."

Earlier, Jack Williams, a district chief with the Houston Fire Department, confirmed three people had died.

The jet, en route from

Love Field in Dallas, was approaching the runway when it clipped the light pole, losing part of a wing, authorities said. Wreckage extended about 100 yards from there, Williams said.

The crash site is a field near the Beltway 8 tollway. No one on the ground was injured, but one car was hit with debris while another was hit with jet fuel, Williams said.

Roger Smith, a spokesman for the Houston Airport System, said the pilot didn't indicate any problem, and the landing was routine until communications abruptly stopped. Dense fog blanketed most of the area.

Robert Randall, operations manager with the plane's owner, Jet Place Inc. of Tulsa, Okla., said it had two male pilots and a female flight attendant aboard. The company has a fleet of 18 jets and employs about 150 people, he said.

Flight operations at Hobby Airport were not affected by the crash, officials said, but a portion of the heavily traveled tollway was closed.

Eduardo Maruri, president of the Guayaquil Chamber of Commerce, said that Bush suspended his visit until next month.

*"I was deeply saddened to learn of the plane crash this morning."*

**TOM FRECHETTE,**  
BUSH SPOKESMAN



Pat Sullivan AP Photo

**JET CRASHES IN FOG:** The remains of one of three people were removed from the Houston site of a private jet crash as officials looked through the debris yesterday.

## LITTLE SHOP



Priscilla Thornton BG Photo

**SETTING UP SHOP:** Senior Jaimmy Bertke sets up for post-Thanksgiving festivities at the Peregrine Shop in the Union. The shop will be open today and tomorrow from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and will be closed Thursday through Sunday.

## Report: Drug for cholesterol caused fatal muscle spasms

By Marilyn Marchione  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New reports accuse another drug company of being too slow to pull a dangerous medication from the market and question the ability of the federal Food and Drug Administration to protect the public from such risks.

This time it's Baycol, a cholesterol-lowering medicine that Bayer AG withdrew in 2001 after some people who took it developed a severe and sometimes fatal muscle disorder. A new study found that the risks were far greater than had been believed.

The study concludes that today's top-selling cholesterol-lowering drugs, called statins, are very safe, but could be risky when taken with other drugs called fibrates by older people with diabetes.

It also reveals that fibrates alone can be dangerous. These drugs lower triglycerides and

often are taken by diabetics.

Six papers on the issue were released yesterday and will be published Dec. 1 in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Its editors call for a new, independent office separate from the FDA to monitor drugs after they're on the market.

"It is unreasonable to expect that the same agency that was responsible for approval of drug licensing and labeling would also be committed to actively seek evidence to prove itself wrong," they write.

Dr. Steven Galson, acting director of the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, said concerns similar to those voiced in the JAMA articles are what prompted the agency earlier this month to seek an Institute of Medicine study examining the effectiveness of the nation's drug safety system.

"It needs scrutiny and we

*"I can't think of another drug safety combination where the level of risk is this high."*

**DR. DAVID GRAHAM**  
FDA SPOKESMAN

need to determine if change is necessary," Galson said in a phone interview Monday.

In part, the new study will examine how the FDA is organized to investigate the safety of drugs on the market, and Galson said the FDA would consider recommendations for structural change.

Galson said the link between statins and muscle disease, with and without use of fibrates, is noted on the drugs' labels. He also said the FDA worked with

Bayer in the 2001 withdrawal of Baycol and "acted on the information when it was made available to us."

Merck & Co. and the FDA have been accused of moving too slowly to stop sales of the arthritis drug Vioxx, which Merck withdrew in September after revealing it raised the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Some scientists claim that painkillers similar to Vioxx, especially Pfizer Inc.'s Bextra, also carry risks.

Last week, Dr. David Graham from the FDA's Office of Drug Safety told a Senate panel the agency was incapable of protecting the public, and that dangerous drugs are being sold now. Bextra and AstraZeneca PLC's statin, Crestor, were among the five he named.

Crestor wasn't part of the new study that Graham and

**BAYCOL, PAGE 2**

### FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

#### WEDNESDAY



Rain

High: 47°  
Low: 29°

#### THURSDAY



Few  
Snow  
Showers

High: 38°  
Low: 21°

#### FRIDAY



Few  
Snow  
Showers

High: 40°  
Low: 33°

#### SATURDAY



Rain

High: 44°  
Low: 33°

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# Protesters file lawsuit against Republicans

A lawsuit claims 'Guantanamo on the Hudson' housed 2,000 arrested at Republican convention.

By Larry Neumeister  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Saying the city had created its "own little Guantanamo on the Hudson" during the Republican National Convention, a lawyer yesterday filed a lawsuit on behalf of nearly 2,000 people arrested at demonstrations.

The federal lawsuit claims protesters and bystanders alike were rounded up in mass arrests without cause; were kept

without access to their lawyers or families at an old bus depot used as a temporary detention center; and were exposed for days to cruel and inhumane conditions.

"All that was missing were the orange jumpsuits," lawyer Jonathan C. Moore said. "Under the guise of terrorism and the fear of terrorism, we are all losing our rights."

Kate O'Brien Ahlers, a city law office spokeswoman, had no immediate comment; the office had not yet received a copy of the lawsuit.

Among bystanders arrested were a 15-year-old diabetic girl and a former vice president of Morgan Stanley who was riding her bicycle.

Barbara Friedman, who had encouraged her 16-year-old daughter's participation in a peaceful protest, said she could not locate her for two days. "I just see all our civil liberties slipping away," Friedman said. "It's very, very frightening."

Moore said the treatment of those arrested violated "a bedrock principle of our democracy that the police cannot simply sweep the streets because they find protest inconvenient or embarrassing."

"They created their own little 'Guantanamo on the Hudson' equipped with chain-link fences and razor wire and guards armed with machine guns escorting prisoners everywhere," he said.



**ROUNDED UP:** Protesters demonstrate in New York City during the Republican National Convention in September. Protesters were arrested in large numbers, bringing a recent federal lawsuit.

## New report challenges reliability of Food and Drug Administration

BAYCOL, FROM PAGE 1

nine other government and private scientists published yesterday because the drug was only approved in August 2003 and their study started in 2001, just after Bayer withdrew Baycol.

They checked records from 11 large health insurance companies on more than 250,000 statin-users from 1998 to 2001. Statins lower LDL or "bad" cholesterol, and fibrates lower a different kind of fat in the blood, triglycerides. People often are prescribed both.

Those taking the top-selling statins Lipitor, Pravachol and Zocor had an extremely low risk of the muscle disorder. But it was five times more common in people taking a fibrate, and an additional two-fold times greater in people taking both types of drugs.

The risk with Baycol was 10 times higher than for other statins, and the risk was astronomical when it was combined with a fibrate: One out of 10 patients taking these for a year would have developed the dangerous side effect.

"I can't think of another drug safety combination where the level of risk is this high," Graham said.

Some popular brand names of fibrates are Abirater, Atomid, Lopid and TriCor. As for Crestor, the newest statin on the market, its label already warns that people over 65 and those with diabetes or kidney problems are at greater risk of the muscle disorder.

Bayer added a similar warning to Baycol's label but not for more than a year and a half after it had evidence of the risk, Dr. Bruce Psaty of the University

of Washington in Seattle and three other drug safety experts write in another article in the medical journal.

As proof, they cited published studies on Baycol and internal company documents that have become public as part of a lawsuit in Texas against Bayer over the drug.

There is a "striking asymmetry" between what the company knew within three months of putting Baycol on the market and what it told the public and physicians, they write. Companies have financial motives to keep such damaging information quiet, and should not be in charge of monitoring the safety of their own drugs — an independent group needs to do this, they write.

A lawyer for Bayer, Joseph Piorkowski, wrote a response

noting that Psaty and another author have been experts for people who unsuccessfully sued Bayer over Baycol. He also defended the company's actions, saying it labeled and disclosed risks appropriately.

In a separate article, Dr. Brian Strom of the University of Pennsylvania acknowledged the conflict of interest in allowing drug companies to monitor their own products, but said the solution is more support for the FDA and its work — not another oversight agency.

Graham said people taking statins or fibrates should watch for signs of the life-threatening muscle disorder, which can be treated if caught early. Patients should immediately tell doctors of any muscle pain, weakness, fever, dark urine, nausea or vomiting.

## BG NEWS

### BRIEFING

#### UT students spray paint over 'Rock'

Last night around 5 p.m., several University of Toledo students were reprimanded by BGUSU police for raising a commotion at "The Rock" near Kreischer dormitory.

According to a University official, as the UT students began spray painting the rock, residents of the dorm began yelling at the students and "raised a controversy." After campus police were ultimately called, the UT students were asked to leave the University grounds here.

#### Pike Street parking

Commuter parking lot 4 A is now open for students to park in. It is located between Pike and Ridge Streets on the west side of campus. The

newly paved lot provides 128 spaces for commuter students.

The other section of the lot has not been completed, but is expected to be open by the beginning of Spring Semester.

#### WBGU banned by 'Patriot' group

In an email sent to WBGU 88.1 member Kyle Gebhart, the organization Patriot Americans Boycotting Anti-American Hollywood, stated that they would be boycotting the college station.

According to Gebhart, on-stage antics of the band Skinny Puppy, a metal-industrial group, led PABAAH to ban every radio station that played their music. Such antics included an effigy of the president by decapitation.

An additional member of 88.1 went to an SP concert and could not confirm this.

"We were aware this had happened at college radio stations," he said, but was surprised it happened to them.

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**Time:** 9:00 pm - Midnight

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## WOOD COUNTY CORPS SEEKING HOST SITES

The fall of 2005 will bring an AmeriCorps program into Wood County. Any entities interested in participating as a host site must submit an application, preliminary partnership agreement and a member placement profile to the Wood County Corps' office by Dec. 15. For more information, contact Rosser at [rosser@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:rosser@bgnet.bgsu.edu) or 372-9288.

www.bgnews.com/campus

## CAMPUS

## get a life

The calendar of events is taken from  
<http://events.bgsu.edu/>

## 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

CMAI Annual Campus-Wide Kwanzaa Celebration Ticket Sales

The event features a presentation of the seven principles of Kwanzaa, African dancing and drumming, a soul food dinner and door prizes!

Admission is \$8 w/ student ID, \$10 non-students and \$5 children under 12. Purchase advanced tickets in the CMAI Office 424 Saddleire Building 11/1/04-12/2/04.  
424 Saddleire

## 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Refunds for Ben Folds Concert, Sponsored by UAO  
Union Lobby

## 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Dance Marathon Snowglobe Sale, Fundraiser sponsored by Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-med Society  
Union Lobby

## 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

T-Shirt giveaway, Sponsored by Muslim Student Association  
Union Lobby

## 11 a.m.

BG@100 Open Forum

This forum is an opportunity to learn more about the BG@100 project to implement PeopleSoft for BGSU's administrative systems and to ask questions of team members. All are encouraged to attend. Questions regarding BG@100 may be directed to: BGat100@bgsu.edu  
Union 314

## 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Women's Studies Fundraiser and Information  
Women's Studies will be selling glass pendants with funds going to a charitable cause.  
Union Lobby

## 3:30 p.m.

Empowerment Group for

Women Survivors of Abusive Dating Relationships

Student support group is a space for women at all stages of recovery to discuss their experiences and the patterns of abuse, explore safety options, facilitate healing and learn to recognize cues to potentially abusive behaviors and relationships. Confidentiality is emphasized.

Sponsored by The Transformation Project.  
For More Information Contact: Rebecca Nichols Theis at 372-2190

The Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall

## 8 p.m.

Space Dreams - Our Quest to Explore the Universe  
Multimedia show in the Planetarium, \$1 donation suggested. For More Information Contact: Physics & Astronomy  
BGSU Planetarium - 112 Physical Sciences Lab Bldg.



Brian McRoberts BG News

**CONCERT REFUNDS:** Adriana Skowron and Bob Rice sit at the UAO and Family Weekend Committee table in the Union yesterday — the two organizations have set-up a table for students to get refunds. Beth Squire fills out a refund sheet for the tickets she had purchased for the cancelled family weekend concert. In order to receive refunds, students must bring their tickets and fill out the paper work at the tables.

## DAILY ADVISING TIP

Freshman begin registration today for Spring 2005

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**James Croak, D.O., FA C.O.G.**  
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## QUOTE/UNQUOTE

*"Bin Laden makes the documentaries that decide elections."*

Cuban leader Fidel Castro, on Cuba's "Mesa Redonda" TV discussion program, on the appearance of an Osama bin Laden videotape just before the U.S. election.

(Associated Press)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

# OPINION

## STAFF EDITORIAL

## Violent acts and sport don't mix

Minus some trash talk, the BG-Toledo rivalry seems to be fairly non-hostile. Discounting all the standard legal football violence, our boys and theirs seem to be more civilized than some of the other professional and amateur athletes of today.

Just in the past couple of weeks we have seen punches thrown by players at the Cleveland Browns-Pittsburgh Steelers game. Then Friday night all hell broke loose in Detroit at the Pistons-Pacers game when

## YOU DECIDE

What do think of the recent rash of violence at sporting events? Send an Email to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com) and tell us what you think, or post feedback on our web site.

Ron Artest and teammates declared nuclear war on some unruly Pistons fans. The next day fights broke out before and after a Clemson-South Carolina

college football game.

All these matchups featured rivalries, much like the Falcons and Rockets game tonight, as well as vicious hand-to-hand combat.

There is so much violence in the world, many look to sports for escape. Whether or not they should hide from real-world conflicts, they have found that their games have been overtaken by assaults and batteries.

People turn on TV news broadcasts to see stories about a

man recently arrested for opening fire on deer hunters. We see the deaths of U.S. soldiers, insurgents and civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan. We see murders, robberies and the like in our own hometowns.

Sports fans hope to see a good, competitive contest – most have a team they want to win. Only a few want to see the type of aggression displayed by the athletes – and the Pistons fans – over the past week. For the few who enjoy that insanity, there

is boxing. Well-trained fighters wear gloves and most understand that there are rules in the ring.

Now we get to see sports in a different light. TV news organizations, especially ESPN, have been broadcasting these fights as if they were on a constant loop.

NBA commissioner David Stern has levied huge punishments for the melee in Detroit, including suspending Artest for the remainder of the

season.

Hopefully, this will send a message that this type of behavior is unacceptable. Potential criminal charges are pending against the players and fans involved.

Games that we were taught and that kids today learn should not promote violent losses of temper.

Tonight lets behave ourselves at the biggest game of the year for both Toledo and BG, hopefully Toledo will follow in line.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Thanks to students who volunteered

The staff and employees of Wood County Health Department and Wood County Committee on Aging would like to thank the BGSU Serve volunteers who assisted with the Wood County Senior Citizens Center flu clinic on October 28, 2004.

A big thank you goes out to the following BGSU students: Katie Gerken, Gina Tortorella, Chanel Griffith, Akeela Welch, Aileen Raig, Tara Stelzer, David Cheney, and Rebecca Scherer.

A record number of people received flu shots on that day, and there were many positive comments made regarding how smoothly the clinic was conducted.

The BGSU students did a wonderful job of helping senior citizens fill out their consent forms, directing the flow of

traffic and also assisted the health department staff with other clerical duties.

Students – thank you so much for helping things run so smoothly and for giving of your time and energy to serve your local community. You are a credit to your generation and to BGSU.

**WOOD CO. HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF AND THE WOOD CO. COMMITTEE ON AGING STAFF**

### PEOPLE ON THE STREET

*"What is your favorite part of Thanksgiving?"*



**BRANDON DAVIS JUNIOR,**  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
*"Killing turkeys."*



**BRENDA TORRES SOPHOMORE,**  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
*"I like food. I don't care what it is."*



**JASON PIERRE JUNIOR, BUSINESS**  
*"Sweet potato pie."*



**ANGELA REDA JUNIOR,**  
SPECIAL EDUCATION  
*"Spending time with family."*

## Good deeds were never given back

History is filled with reasons to be embarrassed about being white.

Caucasian Americans do not have the greatest track record as far as human rights are concerned. We enslaved Africans for centuries. We stood by as Adolph Hitler came to power. We evacuated and relocated thousands of our own Japanese Americans during World War II so we could keep a better eye on them.

To be frank, we just aren't very nice people.

I know that we are not proud of these accomplishments. Many of us would take them back, if we were able to.

I mean, it's not like we're out celebrating that all this occurred? Oh, wait. Yeah, we are.

We actually celebrate our complete disregard for another culture every year at the end of November.

It's called Thanksgiving.

I don't understand it. We don't observe a National Slavery Day, do we? We don't cook up a bunch of food and sit around, saying, "gee, this sure isn't like the good 'ole days when the house slave could've done it for us for free, huh?" (Maybe they might, in some backwoods, Confederate flag-waving community in Mississippi somewhere, but otherwise probably not.)

Why do we really celebrate Thanksgiving? We are taught at a young age that we celebrate it in the name of friendship between the Pilgrims and Native Americans, when they shared a feast together one fateful day in late November of 1621. And everyone was so happy to see each other, and they talked and laughed and cooperated and blah blah blah...

Does anyone buy this for more than like, five seconds? Come on. I may have believed this story when I was six, and that was only because I liked making little Pilgrim hats in my first grade class out of construction paper.

There are major holes in this plot.

First of all, the Pilgrims were morons. They came over on their Mayflower ship and when they got here, they kind of just stood around going, "what do we do?" Big ideas, absolutely no planning ability.

Luckily for them, the Native Americans were here to teach them some skills. They taught them to grow corn so they wouldn't starve to death, since the Pilgrims barely brought enough to eat for the



**MEGAN SCHMIDT**  
Opinion Columnist

journey over (big surprise). Some researchers say that if indeed the first Thanksgiving feast even took place, the Native Americans supplied most of the food because the Pilgrims ran out.

How embarrassing. Who invites people over for a party, runs out of food, then makes the guests bring their own? That's just bad manners.

If we want to talk about bad manners, though, maybe we should talk about how the Pilgrims repaid the natives for all of their kindness. Surely no good deed goes without some compensation, right?

The Pilgrims left their new friends with some lovely parting gifts, such as smallpox, and other life-threatening epidemics that eventually wiped out 90 to 96 percent of the Native American population. From time to time, they would rob Native American villages when they needed supplies, and dig up their graves to steal the offerings that had been buried with the deceased. Classy!

White settlers didn't mind the Native Americans being around at first, as long as they could steal land, resources, and ideas from them. But as soon as their towns, and later, their colonies, began to flourish, they began to resent the natives.

They began to refer to them as "savages" and claimed that they needed to be "purified" (i.e. turned Christian). The whites began to force their religion upon many of the Native Americans who were still alive and healthy. For the rest, they just waited for the smallpox to kill them.

Sure, the Pilgrims could not have known that they were spreading disease, but they didn't have to be so pleased about it. When the whites realized what was happening to the natives, King James actually said that he thanked "almighty God in his great goodness and bounty towards us for sending this wonderful plague among the savages."

If the first Thanksgiving even happened, the only thing the Pilgrims gave "thanks" for was the fact that they could mooch off of the Native Americans and get away with it.

## Unity is trumped by diversity



**JED HERRINGTON**  
Opinion Columnist

Although I've tried to steer away from talking about the election again, truth has slapped me in the back of the head and demanded some more time in discussing its absence in the presidential sector of the infected rat race known as "Decision 2004."

I went to John Kerry's web site last night, in light of reading numerous articles detailing the progress of non-Democrat funded lawyers carrying out attempts at a recount in Ohio.

Various reports of voter disenfranchisement range from insufficient machines provided in highly Democratic precincts to touch screen inaccuracies.

Of course, the lawyers are being stupid and are wasting their time. John Kerry doesn't even want a recount. He said it himself on concession day.

"Earlier today, I spoke to President Bush, and I offered him and Laura our congratulations on their victory. We had a good conversation and we talked about the danger of division in our country and the need – the desperate need – for unity, for finding the common ground, coming together."

"Today, I hope that we can begin the healing. In America it is vital that every vote count, and that every vote be counted. But the outcome should be decided by voters, not a protracted legal process."

"I would not give up this fight if there was a chance that we would prevail. But it is now clear that even when all the provisional ballots are counted, which they will be, there won't

be enough outstanding votes for us to be able to win Ohio. And therefore, we can not win this election."

Ah yes, the "danger of division." Man, we don't want people getting crazy and attempting to stand up for their belief in a secure democracy.

You are absolutely right John, assimilation is always the answer. Your supporters (and people that despise you but voted for you anyway) should drop their ideals and just "go with the flow."

You go be the good sport so you and George can be friends now.

The many things you debated him on throughout your candidacy are not serious enough to stifle congeniality towards your buddy. I bet you are finally coming around in realizing your foolish error in protesting the atrocities of the Vietnam War. You know now that war talk should be left to the "adults."

The Skull n' Bones connection is alive and kicking. Did you and George have a few drinks and talk about the good old secret fraternity times as undergrads?

Did Theresa and Laura get together to exchange ideas for the task of decorating mansions for Christmas?

I for one feel totally confident in the electoral process knowing that John Kerry is sure all of the votes will be counted. I bet you were right there when the first provisional ballot was unsealed, weren't ya John?

All jokes (Kerry/Edwards)

*"Civilization and the ideas that define it evolve through change. If it didn't, we'd have American slave owners still arguing the Earth is flat."*

2004) aside, serious efforts at preserving honest democracy are taking place in Columbus, whether Kenneth "I'll Deliver Blackwell likes it or not."

The Libertarian and Green parties along with private lawyers providing pro bono service are footing the bill for a recount. Why are they doing this?

Is it because of evil intentions?

It might be possible the Green Party's platform of saving the environment is only a mask for their close ties with the sinister clean energy conglomerates.

The Libertarians could be stuck in a netherworld which facilitates Michael Badnarik's rise to the White House throne. What do you think?

To the Democrats: Defect. Your party sucks.

It's a watered-down subsidy of the Republican Party. High-ranking Democrats are as liberal minded and "all about Democracy" as persons that lip-synch are about cherishing music.

And to the Republicans: If the trust of millions of Democrats can be exploited so old Yale buddies can sip grossly expensive champagne while playing a global-scaled game of "Civilization," so can yours. Guess what kind of catsup they'll be selling in Iraq.

Instead of getting mad about so-called "pinko commies" talking conspiracy theory, try something else.

UNITY, PAGE 5

**BGNEWS**  
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## The BG News Submission Policy

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** are to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

**QUEST COLUMNS** are longer pieces between 600 and 800 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

### POLICIES

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

**E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS** as an attachment to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com) with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing. All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of **The BG News**.

DEEDS, PAGE 5



## Facebook: the new epidemic



**JOSH  
BRENNER**

Opinion Columnist

OK, so maybe you've heard of Facebook. If not, you're obviously out of touch with the world around you. It's essentially an on-line directory. But really, it's far more than that. For those of us who have discovered the Facebook, it has proven to be a way of life. I signed onto the site a week ago, and I've been trying to get my friends to sign up ever since. They inevitably ask me what it is. There's the rub. It's kind of hard to explain. I think it's easier to clarify the meaning of life than it is to let someone know exactly what Facebook is.

So what is Facebook? Well, um, it's...well with a metaphysical belief in a higher power, the question could be raised in the same venue as what is happiness? I believe that meaning then depends not on one finite concept and infallible answer, but instead on individuals. Different people have different purposes, thus having different ultimate meanings, making meaning relative.

Josh, that was beautiful. But it doesn't tell me what Facebook is. Oh, about that, what is it? It's free. Seriously though, Facebook is a directory and everyone at BG whose on it (roughly 1,250 people) has these profiles which tell about them; where they're from, what music they listen to, how often they read my column, etc. And when you start an account, you can leave different information blank, if you so choose. So if you don't want some weirdo leering over his computer at your home address, you don't have to put it down. Let's face it, if someone really wants to know your address, they'll find it. Believe me, I know.

Another one of the features of Facebook is that you list your friends on your profile. And people list every person whom they ever meet as their friends. I've seen some people from other schools that have like a hundred people listed. Other colleges had it before BGSU.

It was started this past February by a sophomore at Harvard. In the beginning of the site, all of the places that had it were prestigious universities, like Columbia, Stanford, and Yale. I don't know why it took them so long to bring Facebook to us in the

4-1-9.

Today, more than 200 are schools on the network, and it's getting bigger everyday. Its sweeping campuses like the bubonic plague swept through Europe or like syphilis swept through MacDonald.

You can also make up groups on Facebook, and/or join other people's groups. It's essentially common interest type things that people make up. Now when you start a group, people are just in it by name. It may sound silly to join a group, if you don't actually do stuff with them, but it's all a part of the Facebook magic.

To recap: You sign-up for an account. Then read people's profiles; sign up as many people as you can as friends, both BG students and friends from other schools; and then you make up and join groups which never do anything.

So you're not really doing anything on Facebook, but it's completely addictive. The only thing I can say is try it for yourself. One of my friends at Ohio State was telling me about it earlier in the year and I thought, "That doesn't sound so great," but it was before I saw the light. Facebook is awesome, and it's a lot more fun than studying.

## FCC's standards are indecent

**DANIEL  
ADAMS**

U-Wire Columnist

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Michael Powell has a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving.

He can start by being thankful that he chairs arguably one of the most powerful and influential government agencies in Washington -- the FCC. Not so long ago, this meant little in the way of name recognition. Can anyone honestly remember the name of the FCC chair before Powell? How about the one before him?

But we know Powell's name, and for that he can thank Janet Jackson and her right boob.

Exposed before 140 million Americans at last year's Super Bowl, that breast has changed the way Americans look at the FCC and its chair. Soon after the incident Powell rushed in, calling it "outrageous" and announcing that he would be launching an investigation. Jackson, sensing the impending media assault, was quick to apologize. A spokesman offered his version of what happened, calling it a "wardrobe malfunction."

Though seemingly well-intentioned and sincere, her explanation and apology would prove unable to withstand the fire storm of brutal condemnation that was to follow. Powell and the FCC led the charge. Before his own investigation had concluded -- indeed, before it had even begun -- Powell offered his own version of the incident: "Clearly somebody had knowledge of it. Clearly it was something that was planned by someone. She probably got what she was looking for."

Powell became the face of an offended America -- the voice of parents across the nation convinced that they and their impressionable brood had been victimized by the searing image of Jackson's nipple. Whereas his predecessors were often content to quietly and passively enforce their congressional mandate, Powell has rarely shied away from commenting on issues that he sees as a violation of FCC standards.

These standards, however, are hardly clear on what is and what is not indecent, dubbing indecency "language or material that, in context, depicts or describes, in terms patently offensive as measured by contemporary community broadcast standards for the broadcast medium, sexual or excretory organs or activities."

Powell seems neither confused nor daunted by this ambiguous mandate. Take for example the most recent FCC flap over the Terrell Owens/Nicollette Sheridan skit on Monday Night Football last week. In the piece, we have Owens, a professional football player, being seduced by Sheridan, who plays a slutty housewife on the appropriately titled ABC series "Desperate Housewives." At the end of the skit, Sheridan seems to succeed, dropping the towel and jumping into Owens' arms.

Powell was quick to denounce the sketch and express his disappointment.

"I wonder if Walt Disney would be proud," he quipped, referring to the Disney corporation's ownership of ABC, the network that had broadcast the piece.

Nevermind that Walt Disney was a notorious anti-Socialist, a willing informant to Joe McCarthy's House Committee on Un-American Activities, and

a reputed racist and anti-Semite -- if this is indecent, then over the past week, Powell has been asleep at the wheel.

Monday through Friday at 3 p.m., just as little Johnny is getting off the school bus, ABC ran "General Hospital" -- a soap opera often featuring long sexualized montages with lots of skin, panting and sultry music.

This weekend, kids watching Saturday morning network television were treated to endless replays of the Friday night brawl at the Pistons-Pacers game, in which Pacers players Ron Artest, Stephen Jackson and Jermaine O'Neal jumped into the stands of a crowded stadium and began assaulting fans. Then they jumped back on the court and, shockingly, continued to assault fans.

And at noon this Sunday, FX showed "Booty Call," SciFi "Escape from New York" and A&E "Deliverance" -- a lovely think piece in which Ned Beatty's character is raped by a hillbilly.

I'm not defending Jackson, nor am I an advocate of abandoning decency standards for broadcast media. But this isn't a standard. Standards aren't supposed to be this arbitrary and confusing. No, this is one man, with a microphone, editorializing on issues that he personally finds offensive. One man, using the power of his position to influence what is and what is not allowed on television.

When asked to explain his criteria for judging what is indecent, Powell replied, "I don't think you need to be a lawyer to understand the basic concepts of common decency here."

Actually, to understand, you just need to be Michael Powell.

UNITY, FROM PAGE 4

Step back and ask yourself if you are comfortable with your elected officials plotting the next maneuver so they can use the genuine core of your ideology to make dirty money and widen the class gap.

There is a big difference between economic conservatism and fascism.

One of the key elements in maturing through the human experience is realizing your parents don't know everything. They have faults. Civilization

and the ideas that define it evolve through change. If it didn't, we'd have American slave owners still arguing the Earth is flat.

Bush and Cheney are warmongering imperialists, no matter what mom and dad think. Just because we got it good here in rural Ohio, doesn't mean it's good everywhere.

I'm all about the unity. I'd love to discuss new ideas and how they can better our country with anybody who has an open mind and a thorough,

reasonable argument. Diversity of thought is the key ingredient to eliminating unnecessary boundaries.

But if "healing" means putting up with dirty, corporate sponsored politics in which many suffer so few may prosper, than you can count me out. The only thing dividing the nation are old, rich guys who lead two teams of the same players into fake battles with each other so they appear to be earning our tax dollars.

DEEDS, FROM PAGE 4

As far as "giving" goes, all the whites gave the natives in return was some crappy land out in the middle of a desert called a "reservation."

Let's face it, the holiday is

a joke. The Native Americans were the gracious, hospitable ones, not us. We were too busy snickering as we handed them smallpox-infested blankets and saying, "here, these'll keep ya warm!" to give them the thanks they truly deserved.

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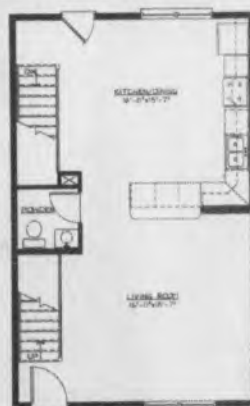
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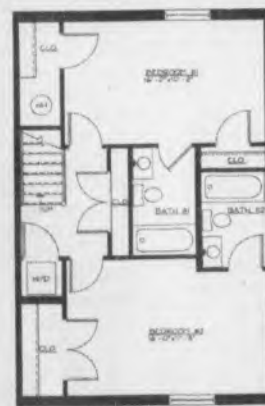
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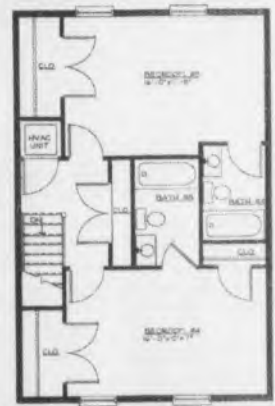
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# Swimmers fall to Notre Dame, 189-112

The Bowling Green swimming and diving team hosted their final home meet until February with a 189-112 loss to Notre Dame Saturday.

The Falcons did have some strong showings in the loss. Dana Schultz finished first place in the 100 and 200 yard butterfly. Caroline Keating placed second in the 200 freestyle as well as the 500 freestyle. The BG 200-yard relay team of Jessica Guinness, Stephani Buckner, Lisa Hipp and Lauren McClave won the 200-yard free relay.

## The enemy has spoken



RYAN VASKO

UT Columnist

**Editor's Note:** To help continue the great BG-UT rivalry, the Independent Collegian and the BG News are swapping columnists for a day. Each was given 1,000 words to say which team they thought would win. We will find out who is right tonight when the Rockets and the Falcons clash in the battle of 1-75. Hope you enjoy and try not to get too upset.

When I approached my friend Elliott about this whole cross-newspaper column idea, the motivation in my head was simple. This'll be great, I thought, the chance to run my mouth to an entire rival campus, thousands of people whose skin I could get under just by saying what was on my mind. It's a sports writer's dream.

But as the weeks went by, I came to realize that I was thinking about this all wrong. I was being given a golden opportunity to do some good, and I would be wasting it if I just spouted off for an entire column.

I was being given a chance to pass on some real, useful knowledge to the Bowling Green campus. I realized that I had to do my part to teach you BG students, to school you on a subject which, sadly, you don't know an awful lot about: why your team won't beat our team come Tuesday.

Alright, so maybe I lied a little

RIVALRY, PAGE 7

# SPORTS

TUESDAY  
November 23,  
2004  
....

www.bgnews.com/sports  
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

## Falcons face Toledo tonight

By Adam Hritzak

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The culmination of another successful season comes to a close tonight for the Falcon football team, as long as they can beat rival Toledo.

BG is one of the hottest teams in the nation, reeling off seven consecutive victories in what has appeared to be ease. All the gaudy numbers that the offense has put up and big plays the defense has made will lose much of their steam if the Rockets are victorious.

That is what a great rivalry is. Your entire season and bowl hopes come down to the final regular season game against the school whose colors you can hardly bear to see.

One game, one monstrous rivalry.

"It's been a rivalry now for a while and the fact that the school's are only 20 miles apart makes it all that more intriguing," said BG head coach Gregg Brandon. "It's a great rivalry because no one team dominates the series and both teams have just as good a chance to win as the other."

For the Falcons, playing at the Glass Bowl this year makes the game more challenging since the home team has won the last six contests.

However, BG has had a knack for jumping all over their opponents early in games and giving them little, if any, chance to come back. They have outscored their opponents 275-92 in the first half of games.

Much of this credit is due to having a top-tier offense that consistently is on the same page as they rank fourth in the nation in total offense with 496.4 yards per game and scoring at 43.9. Quarterback Omar Jacobs has far exceeded expectations this year, leading the nation with 32 touchdown pass and 21.6 points responsible for per game.

The offensive line has played like a stone wall as a unit since game one at Oklahoma, which has given Jacobs ample time to make his reads and prevent him from forcing passes.

"Our offensive line has been outstanding all year. Seven sacks, only two of those have been

on the line. The others were coverage sacks or when Omar got caught. That to me is incredible," Brandon said.

The receiving core has provided for big play after big play and seems to be running free for much of the game.

Cole Magner leads the team in receptions (56) and Charles Sharon leads in receiving yards (860) and touchdowns (12). The play of Steve Sanders, who averages a team-high 18.9 yards per catch, has added more fire to the Falcons weaponry.

"Steve's really come on," Brandon said. "He's emerged as a big time guy. It's nice that Steve has elevated his game so that he can be a guy in crunch time now."

Brandon has challenged the offense to outplay Toledo's offense, much like he challenged the defense to outplay Marshall's in their last game. Marshall came to town with the most talked about defense in the Mid-American Conference and left battered and bruised after allowing 56 points.

The task is difficult again facing a Toledo offense that averages 33.8 points per game.

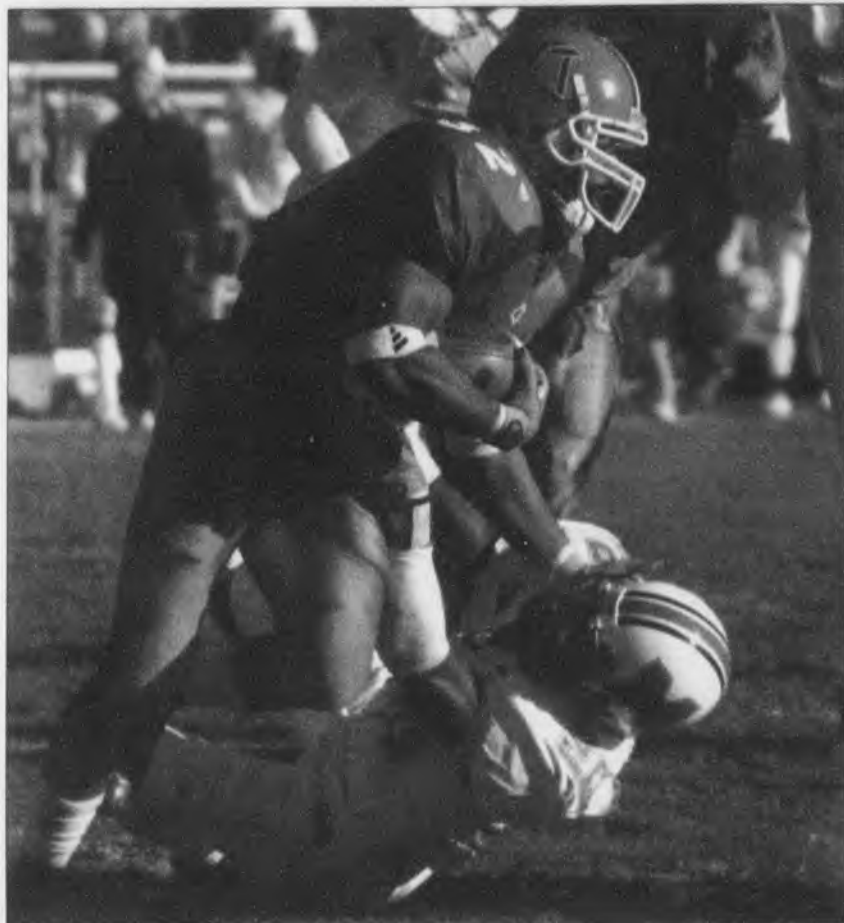
The Rockets put up offensive numbers that are similar to BG's, but their system is different. Toledo likes to play smashmouth football, then set defenses up by utilizing the play-action pass to get the ball in their receivers hands.

"They are a two dimensional team, they can run it and pass it," said middle linebacker Jovon Burkes.

When you have a classic rivalry such as BG-UT, certain positions even have a bit of the rivalry flair. Jacobs rival at quarterback is Bruce Gradkowski, who is second to Jacobs in several MAC statistical categories. On the year, Gradkowski has passed for 2,886 yards, 20 touchdowns and has a pass efficiency rating of 163.71.

He is also effective scrambling out of the pocket, as he has run for seven touchdowns.

"What we have to do as a defense, starting with the defensive ends, is contain him," Burkes said. "He has great speed on turf."



Julie DiFranco BG News

**GET OFF ME:** Falcon running back B.J. Lane runs over a Marshall defender in BG's 56-35 victory over the Herd. Lane has rushed for 331 yards on the season and has two touchdowns. BG's running game has helped keep their offense atop the MAC offensive categories all season.

Gradkowski likes to spread the ball around. Receivers Kenny Higgins and Steve Odom have combined for 1,144 yards receiving and eight touchdowns, but his main weapon is senior wide receiver Lance Moore. Moore has 70 catches on the year for 870 yards and nine scores.

"These past few years, they have great receivers," said senior safety Keon Newson. "They got guys making a lot of plays. We've got to be ready to step up to the level of their receivers and jump up in there and make plays with them."

"(Moore's) probably one of the best receivers in the conference," Brandon said.

The Rockets like to run out of a two-tight end formation. This is where they are able to get their tight ends involved and let them make big plays to throw off defenses. Chris Holmes has caught 27 passes for 254 yards on the season.

Toledo's defense struggled mightily in the early part of the season, but has rebounded nicely to keep them in games. They were able to shut down Northern Illinois' running attack

and allow their own offense to carry them to victory.

"(Toledo coach Tom Amstutz) has done a good job keeping that defense together," Brandon said. "You can see them getting better week to week on film, and they're playing together."

Brandon put the team's recipe for victory into simple terms.

"We need to control the football and score points like we normally do and keep their offense on the sideline," he said.

Kickoff is at 7 pm and the game will air on ESPN2.

## Pistons win with reserves

By Larry Lage

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Detroit guard Lindsey Hunter took pictures with fans while two armed police officers stood just a few feet away.

Things were clearly different at The Palace, and it might be a long time before everything returns to normal at the site of one of the worst brawls in U.S. sports history.

The defending NBA champion Pistons beat the Charlotte Bobcats 117-116 in double overtime Sunday night — on Tayshaun Prince's dunk with 16.5 seconds left — but few asked about the game just two days after the melee with Indiana that spilled into the stands and onto the court.

"I ain't answering anything about that suspension stuff, nothing about the fight," Detroit's Rasheed Wallace said before hearing a question.

Even though Wallace and the Pistons don't like it, the nation has its eyes on the security issues at their NBA home.

For Detroit's game against the Bobcats — its first outing since the fracas — the team doubled the number of armed police to about 20 in the arena and increased other arena security personnel by about 25 percent.

When both the Pistons and Bobcats went to the locker room and returned to the court, they were escorted by police — one officer in front of each team, and one behind.

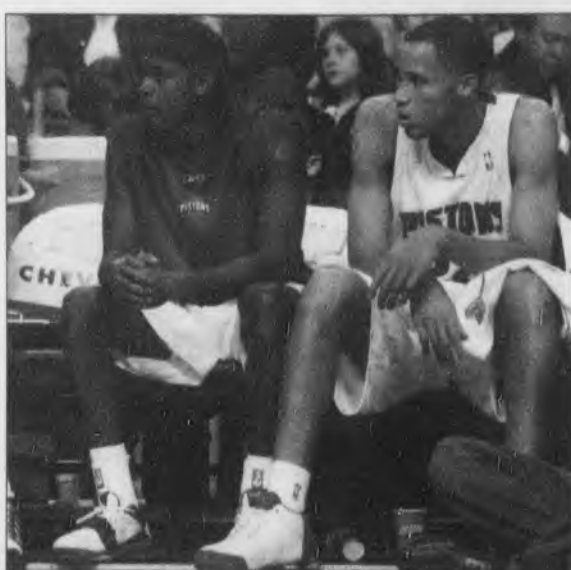
Unarmed personnel in blue and red shirts were sprinkled throughout the arena in suburban Detroit. Those assigned to stand near the court turned their back on the game to watch the fans in the stands.

Pistons CEO Tom Wilson said he hoped the franchise sent a message about how serious it was about preventing safety problems in the future.

"That's why we ratcheted up our security," Wilson said. "If you were sitting at home or you were here watching what happened the other night, you might have thought, 'Can I take my wife there? Can I take my kids there? Is that a safe environment?'"

It wasn't on Friday when an on-court scuffle between Indiana's Ron Artest and Ben Wallace of the Pistons led to Artest charging into the stands after a beverage-filled cup was thrown on him by a spectator.

"I think we want to show the security, and reinforce that this is the safest place to go to and that what you saw was a horrible aberration that probably would've



Duane Burleson AP Photo

**QUALITY REST:** Detroit Pistons starters Smush Parker, left, and Tayshaun Prince rest on the bench during their game against the Bobcats.

only happened with that player in the league," Wilson said. "It was like the perfect storm."

The NBA came down hard on those involved in the mayhem Sunday night.

Artest was suspended for the rest of the season. Overall, nine players from the teams were

banned for more than 140 games including Ben Wallace, who will be out for six games.

The Pistons plan to add a protective covering over the tunnels leading to the locker rooms after the Pacers were showered with

PISTONS, PAGE 8

## Auburn has work left to do

By John Zenor

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When a teammate handed Carnell Williams an orange during No. 3 Auburn's postgame celebration, the Tigers' tailback knew the timing wasn't right.

"No, not yet," Williams responded, flinging the fruit to the ground.

He's right. The Tigers completed a perfect regular season with Saturday's 21-13 victory over Alabama on Saturday, but they hardly can start celebrating a trip to the Orange Bowl for a national title shot.

The far-from-decisive victory means Auburn (11-0, 8-0 Southeastern conference) will almost surely need some help from above — meaning a loss by either No. 2 Oklahoma or No. 1 Southern California.

Despite beating their top rival, the Tigers lost ground in their national championship pursuit after starting out shaky and falling behind 6-0 at halftime.

"It's a little bit alarming that we would lose ground, but we also picked up some first-place votes in both polls, which shows that

some people did pay a little bit of attention to what was going on," coach Tommy Tuberville said Sunday.

"I think the voters will be a little more serious the next few weeks and look at things a little bit differently."

Auburn, third in last week's Bowl Championship Series standings, lost five votes in The Associated Press rankings, dropping from a second-place tie with Oklahoma. The Tigers dropped two votes further back in the ESPN/USA Today coaches poll and already trailed Oklahoma and USC in the computer rankings, too.

They still need to be concerned with orange — the orange and white of No. 15 Tennessee, their opponent in the SEC championship game in Atlanta on Dec. 4. Auburn is seeking its first league title since 1989 — not to mention its second national championship.

Tuberville is hoping to woo a few voters and computer programmers with that performance. A repeat of his team's earlier 34-10 win at

AUBURN, PAGE 7



# The Falcons and Rockets from a different standpoint

RIVALRY, FROM PAGE 6

bit about not running my mouth. Sue me. On with the lesson...

All I've been hearing the last couple of months from my friends in BG is how great the team's been playing during its winning streak. How much better Omar Jacobs has gotten. How many points you've scored. How easy it should be to roll through Toledo to end the season on a good note.

Well, if this past weekend's Ohio State-Michigan debacle has taught me anything, it's that things in life don't always turn out the way they should.

I'll admit your team's offense has looked pretty impressive since the loss to Northern Illinois (a team we beat, by the way, no big deal). Racking up 349 points is something a lot of teams don't accomplish in an entire season, and your team's done it in the last seven games.

But then I look at the fact that those seven teams have a combined record of 23-56, and the streak loses a bit of its luster. Marshall is the only team beaten during that streak that's actually above .500 at 6-5.

I'll also admit that Jacobs has elevated himself to the level of the MAC's elite quarterbacks this season, and most definitely has a great career at BG ahead of him. But right behind him in the MAC stats and having an equally impressive year is Bruce Gradkowski. And Gradkowski has been here before; he's played in a game this big in front of a hostile crowd.

Really, our two teams are a lot alike. The spread offenses are nearly identical, with the rush usually taking a backseat to an effective passing attack. Each team has a stock of receivers that

seem to catch anything thrown at them, with two top dogs leading the way in your Cole Wagner and our Lance Moore.

I do have to give the edge to Moore over Wagner as the better receiver, though, both in stats and performance. Alaska has given us many fine things. King crab legs, Mt. McKinley, uh, snow... But as far as the best receiver in the MAC goes, nah.

We both also have defenses that can be suspect at times. Both have questions at certain spots, and might not be able to contain the offense opposite them Tuesday night. If more than 100 combined points are scored by the time the final gun sounds, I definitely won't be surprised.

Actually, I'd expect little less than a great, shootout game like that from a rivalry that's easily the best in the MAC. Ours is a good mix of equal respect and hatred, one that lets us party together on Thursday nights, but sport "BGSUcks" or the infamous "BG girls are ugly" shirts on game day. And believe me, a lot of those have been popping up lately.

The animosity between our schools may not be as intense as, say, Ohio State-Michigan or Auburn-Alabama, but we're certainly not going to walk into the stadium holding hands and singing each other's fight songs, either.

That's why I'm sure many of you will try to bring up our first two games of the season — consecutive losses in which our defense gave up 63 points apiece — to back up why you think I'm wrong. Fair enough. Those were ugly losses; ugly like Sloth-from-*"The Goonies"* ugly.

But in the whole scheme of things, they really didn't

matter. Keep in mind the fact that right now, a MAC team can only win the conference title and go to its usual bowl game — not a BCS bowl. Two non-conference losses to start the season with were little more than practice games as far as the MAC race is concerned.

So they never happened. Never. Just like *"Rocky V," "Caddyshack 2"* and *"The Godfather Part III,"* they were just figments of our imagination.

Everything since then has rolled along pretty smoothly, the only bump in the road coming in Oxford, where four turnovers beat us more than Miami (Ohio) did. We know that all we have to do is win to go to the MAC title game and get the chance to beat them on a bigger stage.

You guys, on the other hand, have no shot after Eastern did on Saturday what Eastern usually does — lose. This is one of the big x-factors to why we'll win. I'm a firm believer that a team wants to win a championship a bit more than wanting to spoil it for another team.

The other big x-factor, and the most important one, I think, is the fact that this game is being played at our house. In the last six match-ups between our two schools, the home team has won, and I don't think this is a year for breaking patterns. We just don't lose at the Glass Bowl.

The only loss we've suffered at home since the middle of the '99 season was against Miami and super quarterback Ben Roethlisberger. And Omar Jacobs is no Ben Roethlisberger.

That's why it'll be a good game, but the Rockets by seven in the end. I hope you all come to see it happen, but don't let the door hit you on the way out.

# Familiar times at OU

By Stephen Hawkins  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oklahoma is far from finished after another undefeated regular season.

The No. 2 Sooners (11-0, 8-0 Big 12) were at the same point last year without a loss, but lost two straight championship games: the Big 12 and then the BCS title-deciding Sugar Bowl.

"It's gratifying, but we realize the biggest prizes are still out there that we're after. We're aware of that," coach Bob Stoops said. "It's a great road to pursue ... we'll keep doing the best we can."

Oklahoma completed its 19th undefeated regular season and third in six years under Stoops with a 35-0 win Saturday at Baylor. That will be good enough to keep them No. 2.

In the new Associated Press Top 25 on Sunday, the Sooners were alone at No. 2, just five points ahead of Auburn (11-0) a week after they were tied in the poll. The Sooners' margin in the coaches' poll doubled — from two to four points.

Southern California (10-0) is No. 1 in all the polls.

But the Sooners aren't concerned about polls or the BCS. Their primary focus is the Big 12 championship game Dec. 4 in Kansas City, against Iowa State or Colorado.

"Last year, we went into the Big 12 championship with all those guys up for those awards. We were dubbed the best team that ever played," said defensive end Larry Birdine, who had three of



Sue Ogrocki AP Photo

**RUNNING WILD:** Oklahoma running back Kejaun Jones carries the ball in the first quarter in the Sooners 30-3 win over Nebraska.

the Sooners' season-high seven sacks against Baylor. "This year, knowing we didn't finish it motivated us."

The Sooners have won 23 straight regular-season games. What they remember more are the two straight losses that soured last season.

"Our guys, nobody is more aware of that than they are," Stoops said. "It is something that has been on their minds since two-a-days — finishing."

Oklahoma scored a quick touchdown to start last year's Big 12 championship game against Kansas State. But the Sooners didn't score again and

lost 35-7.

"We left something in Kansas City last year that we want to go back and get," Heisman Trophy quarterback Jason White said. "It's going to be great for our team. We think about what happened last year at Kansas City, and we don't want it to happen again."

After losing the Big 12 title game last year, Oklahoma remained No. 2 in the BCS and got to play in the Sugar Bowl, and lost 21-14 to LSU.

The Sooners won't be as fortunate this year if they can't win the Big 12 game, especially if USC and Auburn stay undefeated.

# Tigers remain calm during victory over rival Alabama

AUBURN, FROM PAGE 6

Tennessee certainly wouldn't hurt.

"That's still not a concern for us because we have another game in which to play in front of a national television audience and a lot of people who haven't seen us play probably," he said of the BCS standings. "There's nothing we can do about that. The only thing we can do is go out and play the best we can. Hopefully voters will be fair."

"We'll go through it and see what happens."

The Tigers were far from their best against Alabama (6-5, 3-5). The offense actually lost four yards in the first quarter before scoring 21 straight points in the second half.

Even Tuberville was impressed by his team's confident mood in the locker room at halftime in its first tight game since a 10-9 win over LSU on Sept. 18.

"Nobody was in panic mode," he said. "Everybody had a smile on their face. Everybody was bouncing around. We knew we were going to win the football game because we felt like that we had the best team."

Alabama added Spencer Pennington's 18-yard touchdown pass in the final two minutes to make the score even less impressive for a team trying to display its dominance.

It might have turned out to be cosmetic points since Auburn recovered the onside kick, but Tuberville knows everything counts at this point.

"This is a beauty contest now, and you're just kind of going out and showing what you can do and see if people like your team better than they do the other team," he said.

Only two other teams have gone through the SEC with an 8-0 record since the league split into

divisions in 1992 — Florida in 1996 and Tennessee in 1998. Both won national titles, and Auburn is hoping to make it 3-for-3.

Tuberville continued to argue that navigating the SEC with a perfect record should be enough for a title shot.

Then again, Auburn went 11-0 in the regular season just once before, in 1993.

"It will be something they always remember," Tuberville said.

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# Stern correct in suspensions

By Jim Litke  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The basketball brawl in Detroit was not just about one league.

The gulf between the players and paying customers is growing in every sport. Too many fans believe too many athletes with too little devotion to their craft are making way too much money. And way too often, the athletes live down to those expectations.

So let's be clear: This mess could have fallen into anybody's lap. But it fell to NBA commissioner David Stern because his league is where the gulf is the widest at the moment.

"We didn't ask to be at the epicenter of this discussion," he said Sunday.

But Stern didn't shrink from it, either.

He proved that Ron Artest, his Pacers posse and those few dozen fools in the stands who wanted a piece of them aren't the only people around the NBA who know how to throw a punch.

And before Stern hit back, he didn't take a vote, worry about how the players union would respond or appoint a commission and wait for the findings. He went right after the troublemakers he could identify, suspending Artest and Indiana teammates Stephen Jackson and Jermaine O'Neal for a total of 128 games and cost them a combined \$12 million in salary. Detroit's Ben Wallace, who instigated the on-court

portion of the brawl, got six games. Pacers guard Anthony Johnson got five and four others got off with a game each.

Better still, Stern was just warming up.

"This," he said at one point during a news conference, "is about something more profound."

That something is about the boundary that separates the court from the stands. And give Stern credit for this much: He acknowledged the players who draw paychecks from his league have done more to blur that line than athletes from any other sport, and just as important, that the whole thing took place on his watch. And while the responsibility for the brawl may have started there, Stern was smart enough to know it won't end there, either.

He vowed that nobody else involved who played a role in the melee was untouchable, including the NBA's fans, its franchises and even the alcohol companies whose dollars swell every team's coffers.

"Frankly, we've got a lot of work to do in the next several days and coming weeks. It is our practice and has been our practice to deal with discipline itself in a timely fashion, which we have," Stern said. "There may be other wrinkles."

"Wrinkles" was an interesting choice of words for someone about to embark on one of the more ambitious sports overhauls in a while.

He removed one big obstacle by getting Artest off the floor for the rest of the season, and the other troublemakers out of the way long enough to make at least a small dent in their thick skulls and thicker wallets. In the bargain, he might have cost the Pacers a chance at the Eastern Conference title for what, in NCAA terms, is called a "lack of institutional control." And he hinted that the Pistons could still be held accountable if the league determines security at the Palace was found wanting.

Maybe those were the "wrinkles" Stern had in mind.

But he also talked, correctly, about the "social contracts" and "covenants" that fans make when they buy a ticket to watch a sporting event, and those won't be ironed out easily. Those were crumpled up long ago and thrown on the floors in stadiums and arenas, alongside the spilled beers, and won't be retrieved without some serious effort.

Forget about the fans who willingly — and in the case of more than a few, drunkenly — took part in the melee. Those who didn't get what they were looking for from Artest & Co., will hear from the Pistons soon enough. But their absence can't be the only change in the makeup of the crowds, not just in Detroit and not just in the NBA.

Those fans had more than a few reasons to taunt players in the league, beginning with Latrell Sprewell's clueless rant a

few weeks ago that he couldn't feed his family on \$10 million a year, and zeroing in on Artest, who has been a problem child since he came into the league and added new admirers when he went off recently about taking time off to promote his soon-to-be-released CD. Or maybe they just missed hockey.

But none of it justified throwing beers, food, clothing and at least one chair into the middle of what was already a volatile situation. It's happened at NFL games with fans dissatisfied by a call, at baseball games over slights real and perceived, and at soccer matches all over Europe and South America.

Stern's remedy for that wasn't new. Knowing that fans are likely to give as much respect as they get, he imparted that lesson to the people on his side of the equation as quickly and as forcefully as good judgment and his powers as commissioner allowed. Then he asked fans in the stands to do their part.

"If 20,000 fans decided to go on a rampage," Stern said in answer to a question about security, "we'd have a serious problem."

The NBA already does. And so does every other sports league and anybody else who thinks the only people who've lost their grip on the importance of these games are the ones who play them.

The dangerous few in every crowd are more inventive, more abusive and more menacing. And unless the rest of us are serious about stopping them, the way things are going, they'll be the only ones in attendance.

# BCS leaves top two in control

By Ralph D. Russo  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Southern California and Oklahoma held the top two spots in the Bowl Championship Series standings on Monday, leaving little doubt that the Trojans and Sooners are in control of their national title hopes.

Unbeaten Auburn is stuck in third-place behind the first-place Trojans and second-place Sooners. The Tigers look like they'll be the team left out of the Orange Bowl no matter how they do in the Southeastern Conference championship game on Dec. 4 against Tennessee.

USC finishes the season against Notre Dame on Saturday and UCLA on Dec. 4. The Sooners still have to play the Big 12 title game against either Iowa State or Colorado.

Only an unexpected loss or a dramatic shift in the polls, where USC is a solid No. 1 and Oklahoma holds a slight advantage over Auburn for second, could derail the Trojans and Sooners.

Not only did Oklahoma, with a BCS grade of .9642, slightly increase its lead over Auburn (.9356) from last week to .0286, but the Sooners also made a big gain on USC.

The Trojans' .9789 grade is their lowest of the season. Their lead on Oklahoma is down to .0147.

USC was idle last week while Oklahoma was shutting out Baylor 35-0 on Saturday. Auburn trailed at the half before beating Alabama 21-13.

California (.8504) is in fourth place and Texas (.8301) is fifth, with Utah (.8172) sixth.

The Utes (11-0) finished their season on Saturday with a 52-21 win over Mountain West



Paul Sakuma AP Photo  
**CELEBRATION:** Cal head coach Jeff Tedford celebrates a touchdown against Stanford.

Conference rival BYU, all but ensuring themselves of being the first team from a non-BCS conference to play in a BCS game.

Teams from outside the BCS conferences need to finish in the top six of the final BCS standings to guarantee a spot in one of the four \$14-million bowl games.

Boise State is seventh, keeping alive the possibility that the BCS could have two mid-major teams in it this season. The unbeaten Broncos (10-0) of the Western Athletic Conference have a grade of .639 and one game left against Nevada.

It's still a long shot for Boise State, though. Even if California or Texas loses its season-finale and the Broncos finish unbeaten, it might not be enough for them to make the jump they need in the polls and computer rankings.

# Lewis erupts after loss at home

By Joe Kay  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This is a side of Marvin Lewis that his players didn't know.

Angered by his team's inability to get it right for an entire game, the Cincinnati Bengals head coach erupted in the locker room following a 19-14 loss to Pittsburgh.

He screamed so loud that his voice carried through massive closed doors and walls. He poured out his frustrations for the first time in a tirade that took some of his players by surprise.

"I've never seen him like that," receiver Chad Johnson said.

A day later, Lewis had toned down his anger but not his impatience. The second-year coach who prefers to accentuate the positive was in no mood to look for silver linings.

"They know my point," Lewis

said Monday. "We've got to do better. We're not going to settle for playing close. We can do better and we will do better."

Asked if his anger had subsided, Lewis forced a broad smile and a chuckle to mask his feelings, then waited five full seconds before answering.

"We'll see," he said.

What brought his anger to a boil? A loss that was vintage Bengals, one that effectively scuttled any hope of making the playoffs. A victory over the Steelers would have moved them back to .500; instead, they fell by the wayside at 4-6.

The mood was grim Monday at Paul Brown Stadium, where players filed out of meetings quietly and headed home. Lewis' harangue had hit home.

"Marvin's absolutely right," said quarterback Carson Palmer, who hadn't shaved his game-day stubble. "We're a better team

than we showed. We're a better team than 4-6."

Only in spurts. And that's what has Lewis so steamed.

The Bengals outplayed the Steelers (9-1) at the outset, taking a 14-10 lead into halftime. It could have been even better — Pittsburgh's only touchdown came when Palmer forced a pass into triple coverage. Linebacker James Farrior saw Palmer lock onto the receiver, slid in front and returned the interception for a touchdown.

Even though Palmer is in his first season as a starter, he's far enough along in his development that he should have known better.

"I've played 10 games now and got the rust off and seen a lot of different coverages and a number of good defenses," Palmer said. "I'm still going to grow and learn, but there's no excuse for throwing an

interception for six points."

And there's no explanation for how the entire team melted down in the second half — seven penalties for 75 yards, only two first downs and 42 total yards.

That's what set Lewis off. His players once again lost their poise with a game on the line and wound up frittering it away.

It's been their hallmark since 1991, when they started their run as the league's most forlorn franchise. They haven't had a winning record or made the playoffs during a 14-year stretch of futility that spans five head coaches (Sam Wyche, Dave Shula, Bruce Coslet, Dick LeBeau and Lewis) and 151 losses.

In the past, a close loss would have been cause for optimism that things were turning around. Until Sunday, Lewis had remained upbeat even in the toughest times.

All of that has changed. Lewis is no longer in the mood to look on the bright side.

# Game goes off without a hitch

PISTONS, FROM PAGE 6

beer, popcorn and even a chair as they tried to get off the court.

But they don't want to line the court with police and security personnel or a physical barrier.

"I think you've got to be careful and not overreact to undo an excellent relationship between fans and players by putting up walls," Wilson said.

Even before Friday's melee, fans were subject to random searches at Detroit's home games and all members of the media are searched by hand-held wands and their bags are checked and tagged.

Auburn Hills Deputy Chief Jim Mynsberge said investigators are reviewing film of the 5-minute fracas using the cameras of various media outlets and are interviewing witnesses and players. After the police investigation is complete, Mynsberge said the Oakland County Prosecutors Office will determine if charges will be filed

and that could take weeks.

Nine people were treated for injuries, some of which might lead to lawsuits.

Wilson said there's a good chance that tickets would be revoked from any season-ticket holder who was involved in the fight.

Don White, 42, of Auburn Hills and his 10-year-old son sat in the section where Artest and teammate Stephen Jackson fought with fans two days earlier. "I don't really see more security," White said. "I just see more media attention."

Print and broadcast outlets from all over the country covered Sunday night's game, and some planned on filing more reports Monday.

"With the playoff mob of media that we have here, you would think it's the Finals," Hunter said. "I'm not really thinking about it as much. I think everybody else is more than we are."

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# Busch wins first title; clutch down stretch

By Jenna Fryer  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The last time Kurt Busch cried in Victory Lane, it was partly because he realized he was one of the most hated drivers in NASCAR.

When the tears flowed Sunday at Homestead-Miami Speedway, it could have been because Busch realized it doesn't matter if he's popular.

Love him or hate him, Busch is a NASCAR champion.

The brash young driver wrapped up his first title Sunday by outdriving nine other rivals in NASCAR's 10-race Chase for the Nextel Cup championship.

It capped a rollercoaster ride for Busch, a 26-year-old Las Vegas native considered an outsider in NASCAR. He doesn't look like the other competitors, he doesn't talk like them, and, because he often comes across as cocky and arrogant, he isn't embraced like them.

When he was viciously booed after winning Bristol Motor Speedway last season—one week after Jimmy Spencer punched him in the face following a race—it became clear that Busch was NASCAR's newest villain.

Funny how none of that matters when the shiny silver Nextel Cup championship is sitting at your feet.

"It took me some time to understand the bigger picture," he said. "Just to be able to understand the bigger ethic and the bigger picture about racing at this level is one thing that I misunderstood the first couple of years."

Recognizing that was the key to Busch rising to the top of NASCAR in just his fourth season.

He won the title by eight points over Jimmie Johnson—a difference of just two places in the season-ending race—and 16 over Jeff Gordon.

The dramatic finish was a fitting end to a new 10-man, 10-race Chase for the Nextel Cup Championship.

After years of lackluster championship battles, Busch came into the finale leading Johnson by 18 points and Gordon by 21, with Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Mark Martin also outside shots at the title.

Johnson and Gordon were racing for car owner Rick Hendrick, who lost four family members and valued employees when a plane crashed Oct. 24 en route to a race in Virginia.

But in a way, Busch was racing for Hendrick, as well. His younger brother, Kyle, drives for Hendrick in the Busch Series.

"I'm choked up because there nothing harder in the NASCAR community than what we had to go through a couple weeks ago with Hendrick and the problem they had," Busch said. "I love them truly and I want to dedicate anything I can from this championship to them. My little brother was affected by this, so it hit home."

That's the maturity that had been lacking in Busch before.

The talent was always there—he has 11 Nextel Cup victories—but he was unpolished and inconsistent. Add it all up, and Busch was unable to win a title



Terry Renna AP Photo

**SWEET VICTORY:** Kurt Busch looks up at his trophy after winning the 2004 Nextel Cup Championship in Homestead, Fla.

under NASCAR's points system.

But then NASCAR changed the rules, and it suited Busch's style perfectly.

More reserved since his feud with Spencer led sponsor Sharpie to make him take a "career counseling" course, he stayed low under the radar until the Chase began.

Then he made his move, and dodged every speed bump along the way, including breaking a wheel and losing a tire midway through Sunday's race.

"I was in stitches, sick to my stomach the last few laps," Busch said. "I had been out there forever. I felt like I had the whole world on my shoulders and at the same time I felt I was alone."

"So many emotions today. To be able to pull through like we did and cap off an unbelievable season, it's just a great season."

Some will argue that it's not, that the championship race was manufactured by France.

He scrapped a system used for two decades to create a battle that came down to the final lap of the final race.

Boy, did he succeed.

Busch, Gordon and Johnson jockeyed for position for every one of the 271 laps. Every spot was critical, every point furiously calculated by their car owners and crew chiefs.

When the race went into overtime because a late caution made it impossible to finish in the original 267 laps, everyone strapped in for what was sure to be a wild shootout to the end.

The contenders stacked up in a line, fender-to-fender, knowing what was at stake. Gordon was in third, Johnson was in fourth and Busch in fifth.

Busch's part was easy—stay out of trouble over the final four laps and the title was his.

Gordon and Johnson, who came in trailing Busch in the standings, knew they had to do much more: One of them needed to win the race to wrap up the

title.

The field got the green flag and the desperation was obvious in Gordon and Johnson, team mates and the closest of friends. Their Chevrolets darted to the bottom of the track, then back to the top, each looking for the tiniest bit of room to squeeze through. Johnson found a hole and skyrocketed past Gordon.

Neither of them saw Greg Biffle, Busch's teammate, race past them and steadily pull away.

With Biffle stealing the win they needed, and Busch staying pat in fifth place, the championship was over.

"We beat the best of the best over 10 races, and to have my name along the best names in history, it means so much to me," Busch said.

Nothing could stop Busch from winning the title. Not a blown motor in Atlanta, not spinning out in Kansas, not wrecking in Charlotte, not even a wheel falling off in the biggest race of his life.

"This is what a team does to win a championship—they persevere," Busch said. "All year long, we've done things like this. Whether we put ourselves in a hole or whether we had a small problem."

# Turner fired by Illini

By Jim Paul  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ron Turner was fired by Illinois on Monday after three straight losing seasons, a sharp turnaround from early success that included the team's first Big Ten football title in a decade.

Illinois went 3-8 this season and has just one conference victory the past two years. Half of the Illini's four wins overall the past two seasons were against Division I-AA opponents.

Turner had two seasons left on his contract, which pays him \$1.1 million per year in salary and deferred compensation.

"I realize it's a bottom-line business and the last couple of years we didn't win enough football games," Turner said at a news conference. "I can leave this university knowing that I ran a program with great integrity."

Turner went 35-57 record with two bowl trips in eight seasons at Illinois. But since a Sugar Bowl appearance in January 2002, Illinois is just 9-25, and attendance has been falling.

Seven home games this season averaged 48,626 in the 69,249-seat Memorial Stadium.

Turner did enjoy the support of his players, several of whom have said they hoped he would return next season.

"We're talking about the guy who gave us all the opportunity to play football in the Big Ten, the guy who recruited us, the guy who came into our homes when we were in high school and it's the same way



John C. Dixon AP Photo

**FIRED:** Illinois football coach Ron Turner talks to the media. He was fired after three straight losing seasons.

with the whole staff," junior defensive tackle Ryan Mathas said last week.

After four seasons as offensive coordinator for the Chicago Bears, Turner was hired as Illinois' head coach in December 1996, succeeding Lou Tepper.

His first team went 0-11. After a 3-8 season in 1998, the 1999 squad went 8-4 and defeated Virginia 63-21 in the Micronpc. com Bowl. The Illini slipped to 5-6 the following season, but

in 2001 they went 10-2 before losing to LSU in the Sugar Bowl.

That team was Turner's bright spot. Led by quarterback Kurt Kittner, Illinois' all-time winningest quarterback and leader in touchdown passes, the team went 7-1 to win their first Big Ten title since sharing one in 1990.

Fourteen starters returned in 2002, including All-Big Ten players Tony Pashos and Eugene Wilson on defense and big-play receivers Walter Young and Brandon Lloyd on offense, but Illinois won only once in its first six games and wound up 5-7.

The late-season rally in 2002 fueled hope for 2003, but the Illini stumbled early with close losses to Missouri and UCLA and then went to pieces, losing 10 straight by an average margin of 22 points.

The Illini easily won their season opener this season, 52-14 over Florida A&M, but lost the following week to UCLA and barely squeaked by Western Michigan before losing their next seven games. The low point was a 45-0 loss to Minnesota on Oct. 23.

"Ron directed the program with high integrity, supported our academic mission and held up his coaches and staff to the highest standards," Illinois athletic director Ron Guenther said Monday. "However, all of that said, the past two seasons of subpar records have led me to make the decision to make a change."

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## NATION'S OLDEST BANK ROBBER DEAD AT 92

Hunter "Red" Rountree, who turned to crime in his 80s, died in a prison hospital. Rountree began in 1998, when he was 86. During his first of three bank robberies in Abilene, Tex. he walked slowly to a teller's window, handed over an envelope with instructions, and was greeted with a surprised, "Are you kidding?"

## NATION

www.bgnews.com/nation

## Trump casino business files for bankruptcy

By Jeffrey Gold

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWARK, N.J. — Donald Trump, who has made prime-time entertainment out of firing people, proved that the real world of business can be just as ruthless when he sought Chapter 11 bankruptcy for his casino empire because of a crushing \$1.8 billion in debt.

Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts and related operations filed for bankruptcy Sunday after months of negotiations with bondholders. Chapter 11 enables a business to hold off its creditors and continue operating as it tries to put its finances in order.

"I don't think it's a failure; it's a success," Trump said in a telephone interview yesterday. "In this case, it was just something that worked better than other alternatives. It's really just a technical thing."

The casino business consists mainly of three neon-lit Atlantic City properties and a riverboat casino in Indiana — only a small part of Trump's overall real estate empire. The business has been

undermined by competitors who built new hotel towers, spruced up their casinos and lured gamblers away.

It is the second time Trump casinos filed for bankruptcy.

Trump rose to fame in the 1980s, when he attached his name to buildings, casinos and books, notably "Trump: The Art of the Deal." The Donald returned to the spotlight this year with television's "The Apprentice," which turned "You're fired" into a national catchphrase and made his comb-over even more famous.

Forbes magazine in September ranked him the 74th-richest American, with a net worth estimated at \$2.6 billion.

Trump said he will remain chairman and chief executive of Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts, but his share would be reduced to 27 percent from 47 percent under a proposed restructuring plan reached with bondholders last month. He would still be the largest single shareholder and would still run the company.

"The future looks very good.

We have one of the most powerful gaming companies the day it comes out" of bankruptcy, he said. "There's no way we could have done that without the b-word."

Trump said the restructured company would add a new hotel tower to Trump Taj Mahal, the largest of the three Atlantic City casinos, and renovate the others, Trump Marina and Trump Plaza.

He said he would personally invest \$72 million in the restructuring. He declined to predict how long it will take for the company to emerge from bankruptcy.

The casino business first ended up in Chapter 11 in the early 1990s, burdened by more than \$1 billion in debt and hurt by the recession. Trump later regained control of the casinos, but high interest payments ate away at the company's bottom line, making it impossible to renovate the resorts to compete with newer casinos.

The casino empire's stock had been around \$2 before



Mary Godleski AP Photo

**TURN OVER:** A pedestrian passes the Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, N.J., yesterday. Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts and related operations filed for bankruptcy Sunday after months of negotiations with bondholders.

an announcement in August that the company would seek bankruptcy. It fell to about 50 cents in the autumn.

Jane Pedreira, an analyst for Lehman Brothers, said the reorganization should help Trump casinos stay competitive.

"This is not a doomsday scenario. He just needs to shrink his debt," Pedreira said.

## Long-standing autumn tradition turns deadly in Wisconsin

By Joshua Freed and Robert Imrie

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BIRCHWOOD, Wis. — As several deer hunters made their way through the woods of northern Wisconsin, they were startled to come upon a stranger in their tree stand. But what happened next was even more astonishing.

Asked to leave, the trespasser, wearing blaze-orange and carrying a semiautomatic assault rifle, opened fire on the hunters and didn't stop until

his 20-round clip was empty, leaving five people dead and three wounded, authorities said.

The shooter was eventually captured.

The killings baffled authorities and stunned residents in a state where deer hunting is a rite of autumn — a sport practiced by thousands of people who scour the woods for nine days each November with hopes of bagging a trophy buck.

"This is an incredible

tragedy, one in which a great family tradition like a deer hunt has turned into such a great loss," Gov. Jim Doyle said yesterday.

Police identified the shooter as Chai Vang, 36, a hunter from St. Paul, Minn., who is a member of the Twin Cities' Hmong community. While authorities do not know why he allegedly opened fire, there have been previous clashes between Southeast Asian and white hunters in the region.

The visit was like any other until around noon Sunday. When two or three hunters spotted a man in their hunting platform in a tree on Crotteau's land, they radioed back to the rest of the party at a cabin nearby, and asked who should be there.

"The answer was nobody should be in the deer stand," Sheriff James Meier said.

One of the men approached the intruder and asked him to leave, as Crotteau and the

others in the cabin hopped on their all-terrain vehicles and headed to the scene.

One of the men who was shot called for help on his radio, but it was too late. The gunman fired again, hitting the people who had just arrived on ATVs.

The gunman was "chasing after them and killing them," Deputy Tim Zeigle said. "He hunted them down."

Michael Yang, a Hmong activist, said various Hmong

groups held an emergency meeting Monday to talk about how to respond. Those at the meeting heard stories from some Hmong hunters about friction with white hunters.

The shooting has already provoked racial tension in an area of Wisconsin where deer hunting is steeped in tradition.

"It's pathetic. They let all these foreigners in here, and they walk all over everybody's property," said Jim Arneberg, owner of the Haugen Inn in nearby Haugen.

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## UKRAINIANS DENOUNCE FAULTY ELECTION

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Tens of thousands of demonstrators jammed downtown Kiev in freezing temperatures last night, denouncing Ukraine's presidential runoff election as fraudulent and chanting the name of their reformist candidate, Viktor Yushchenko. Authorities say Yushchenko lost.

## WORLD

www.bgnews.com/world

## Allawi confident of upcoming election

By Hamza Hemdawi  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq's interim prime minister said yesterday he's confident only a small number of people will boycott the Jan. 30 elections despite anger among many Sunni Muslims over the Fallujah offensive and a deadly U.S.-Iraqi raid on a Baghdad mosque.

"The forces of darkness and terrorism will not benefit from this democratic experience and will fight it," Ayad Allawi told The Associated Press. "But we are determined that this experiment succeeds."

Allawi spoke as violence raged in the capital and other cities, and the U.S. Embassy said a bomb was discovered yesterday on a commercial flight inside Iraq. Gunmen in the north assassinated a prominent election opponent, and five decapitated bodies were discovered south of the capital.

Despite the violence, the Iraqi government Sunday set Jan. 30 as the date for parliamentary elections, the first since the collapse of Saddam Hussein's dictatorship. Officials said the balloting would be held even in areas still plagued by insurgency and despite calls by militant Sunni clerics for a boycott.

However, Allawi, a secular Shiite hand-picked by the Americans last June, said he believed that only "a very small minority" would abstain during the election "for one reason or another."

"Their reason will be political, and not sectarian, and they will not be more than 5, 6 or 7 percent," Allawi said in his office in the U.S.-guarded Green Zone. "They are the eventual

losers."

Allawi is expected to run for a seat in the assembly, which would then choose the government.

The United States is anxious that the election go ahead as planned, hoping that an elected government widely accepted by the Iraqi people will take the steam out of the insurgency still raging in Sunni areas of central, western and northern Iraq as well as the capital.

As the election approaches, U.S. commanders in Iraq probably will expand their troops by several thousand. Army units slated to depart are also being held back until after the election. There now are about 138,000 U.S. troops in Iraq.

U.S. officials are concerned that a boycott could deprive the new government of legitimacy in the eyes of the Sunni Arabs, who make up an estimated 20 percent of the nearly 26 million population. The majority Shiites, believed to form 60 percent of the population, strongly support elections.

Spearheading the boycott call is the Association of Muslim Scholars, an influential Sunni clerical group with suspected links to insurgent groups. The association called for a boycott to protest this month's U.S.-led assault on the insurgent stronghold of Fallujah and the continued U.S. military presence five months after the restoration of Iraqi sovereignty.

Allegations by Fallujah residents that U.S. troops defaced mosques and the large-scale devastation of the city have further stoked the anger of Sunnis, who were further enraged Friday when Iraqi forces backed by U.S. troops raided Baghdad's

*"We went to Fallujah... We found enough weapons there to destroy an entire country."*

AYAD ALLAWI

Abu Hanifa mosque, Iraq's most revered Sunni site.

Witnesses said three worshippers were shot dead and at least 40 others were detained in the raid. In a gesture to the Sunnis, Allawi has ordered an investigation.

Yesterday an Iraqi Red Crescent convoy carried blankets, water and first-aid kits into Fallujah, the first time an independent organization has been able to visit the city since U.S.-led forces invaded two weeks ago.

Allawi was defiant in his defense of the Fallujah operation, describing it as an unqualified success.

"We went to Fallujah and we broke their back," he said. "We found enough weapons there to destroy an entire country."

He said that because of the success in Fallujah, "those who will try to obstruct democracy and election are finished. ... They don't have a safe haven anymore."

Allawi also criticized the Sunni association, accusing some of its members of inciting violence.

"Those who call for violence will be dealt with by force. The judicial system also will deal with those who allow themselves to stoke hatreds," he warned. "I hope that those who call themselves the Association of Muslim Scholars rise to the standards set by Islam as a

religion of love and tolerance."

In the northern city of Mosul, a prominent member of the association, Sheik Faïdh Mohamed Amin al-Faidhi, was shot and killed Monday by gunmen at his home. He was the brother of the association's national spokesman, and his killing was likely to anger Sunnis in the city, where insurgents launched an uprising earlier in the month in support of the militants in Fallujah.

Near Mosul, U.S. forces Monday uncovered a weapons stockpile that included anti-aircraft guns and surface-to-air missiles and a building filled with explosive materials, the U.S. military said. The haul included one anti-aircraft gun, 15,000 anti-aircraft rounds, 4,600 hand grenades, 144 grenade launchers, 25 surface-to-air missiles, 21 mortar rounds, 10 rockets and artillery rounds.

Elsewhere, Iraqi security forces recovered 12 bodies, including five decapitated ones, from an area south of Baghdad, police said yesterday. One was identified as a member of the Iraqi National Guard.

The bodies were found during a raid Sunday in Latifiyah, about 20 miles south of Baghdad, said Lt. Adnan Abdullah. The area has a mixed Sunni and Shiite population and has been described as the "triangle of death" because of the large number of fatal attacks against Shiites and foreigners there.

A U.S. soldier died yesterday of wounds suffered in an attack in Baghdad the night before. The Pentagon also announced that three Marines wounded in Fallujah have died, raising the U.S. death toll in the offensive to at least 54. At least 1,228

members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an AP count.

Insurgents ambushed a U.S. convoy in western Baghdad on Monday, but there were no reports of casualties.

The U.S. Embassy gave no details on the bomb that was found on the flight inside Iraq, but said authorities were installing additional screening measures at Baghdad International Airport.

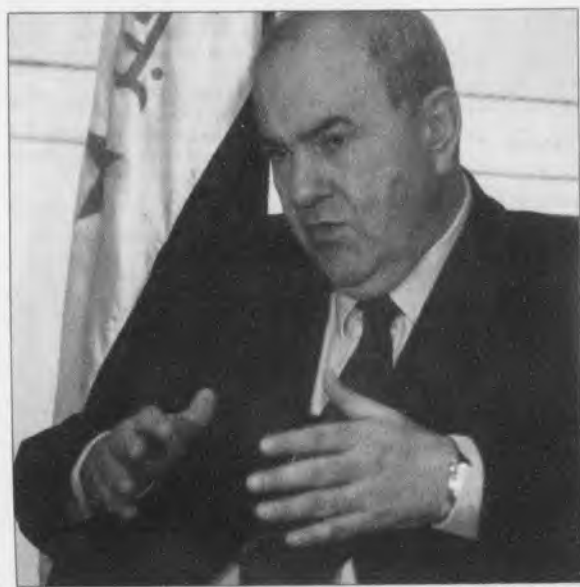
During the interview, Allawi also complained that some of Iraq's neighbors have not done enough to help stabilize his country.

"Certainly, some brothers

and leaders in some neighboring nations did not do enough," he said. "They should have tried to help us at a time when we needed help," he said.

However, Allawi added that he looked forward to "positive and balanced ties with all our neighbors without exception."

Allawi's remarks came as an international conference on Iraq convened yesterday at the Egyptian resort of Sharm El-Sheik, where delegates expressed support for his government and the January vote. The conference, which brings together 20 nations including the United States and Iraq's neighbors, is designed to muster support for Iraq's government.



Samir Mizban AP Photo

INTERIM: Iraq's interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi gestures during an interview with the AP in Baghdad yesterday.

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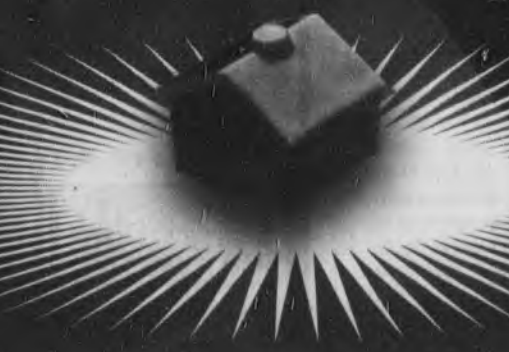
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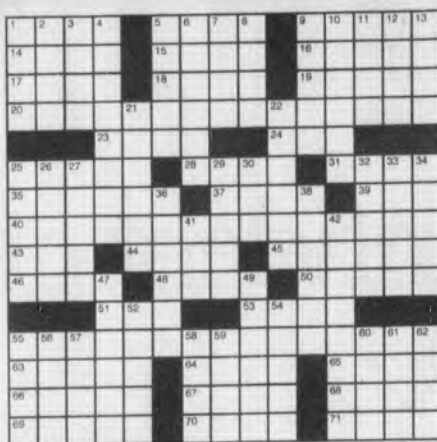
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14 Garfield's pal  
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16 Tropical lizard  
17 Yao of the Rockets  
18 Stratford's river  
19 "Nothing could be \_\_\_\_"  
20 Zero hour?  
23 Spike and Pinky  
24 Sea of France  
25 Face-to-face exams  
28 Hendrix hit, "Purple \_\_\_\_"  
31 Almost closed  
35 Tickets  
37 Yankee Berra  
39 Docs' org.  
40 Not out to lunch?  
43 One in Toledo  
44 Last breath  
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50 Later on  
51 Kawakubo of fashion  
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63 Send payment  
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65 Merit  
66 Pop up  
67 \_\_\_\_ Stanley Gardner  
68 Bus. sch. course  
69 Adhesive mixture  
70 Highland loch  
71 Ownership document

DOWN

1 Lead balloon  
2 Singer Brickell  
3 Writer Lardner  
4 Tediously detailed narrative  
5 Long-legged wader  
6 Opulent  
7 PC picture  
8 Chinese premier Li  
9 Faux pas  
10 "Peer Gynt" dancer  
11 Ms. Anderson  
12 Grade sch.  
13 Withered  
21 Homesteader  
22 Greek letters  
25 Intense hatred  
26 Inclined to flow  
27 Player  
29 Actor Lew  
30 Ms. Caldwell  
32 One Jackson  
33 Soap plant  
34 Not as refined  
36 Actor Omar  
38 Air shaft  
41 "Evil Woman" grp.

42 Postponed  
47 Performer  
49 Indefinite time periods  
52 First name in cosmetics  
54 Climbing plants  
55 Present packaging  
56 Wife of Zeus  
57 Writer Kingsley  
58 Sign of things to come  
59 Seldom seen  
60 Come to grips with  
61 Sioux tribe  
62 Rip apart

### ANSWERS



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### For Rent

**IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY!**  
724 S. College Dr-2 BR unfurn. apt. 1.5 baths, starting at \$425/mo., dep. \$425. Tenant pays elec. NO PETS! Assigned parking.  
422 Clough St.-2 BR unfurn. apt. above garage. \$490/mo plus all util Deposit \$490. NO PETS!  
828 7th St. #2-2 BR unfurn. apt. \$475/mo, dep \$475. Tenant pays E,W,S. NO PETS!  
Spr Sem Rental List Now Available  
Call John Newlove Real Estate, Inc  
Rental Office At (419) 354-2260  
Office at 319 E. Wooster St. across from Taco Bell

Unfurn. eff. apt. 1/2 blk. from campus on S. College Dr. Avail. May '05. 1 yr. lease, dep. req. \$300 incl. util. 419-686-4700.

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Sublesser needed Spring Semester 853 Napoleon #7. On shuttle route, 2 bdrm., spacious. You can keep my deposit! \$405/mo. 419-297-2653.

Sublessers needed ASAP. 2 bdrm. furn. apt. across from campus. \$550/mo. Free gas and cable. Call anytime. 419-353-0500.

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**VARSITY SQUARE APARTMENTS**  
419-353-7715

Map showing location: S. Main St., Varsity Square Apartments, Gypsy Lane, Home Depot.

Check out: [www.bgnews.com](http://www.bgnews.com)

## CINEMARK

The Best Seat In Town

Located at the Woodland Mall - N. Main St. 354-0558

### CINEMA 5

Schedule Good for 11/23/04

The Incredibles (PG): 4:00, 7:00, 9:45

Seed of Chucky (R): 10:10

The Polar Express (G): 4:50, 7:35 No Passes

The Grudge (PG-13): 7:25

Saw (R): 4:15, 10:15

Bridget Jones The Edge of Reason (R): 4:10, 7:15, 10:05 No Passes

SpongeBob Squarepants The Movie (PG): 5:00, 7:45, 9:55 No Passes

4 DAY ADVANCE TICKET SALES - NO PASSES - NO SUPERSAVERS  
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MATINEES: 1-3 PM \$5.00  
EVENINGS: 7-10 PM \$5.25  
FRI-SAT: \$5.75  
THURS: \$4.50 w/Student ID

## MECCA Management Inc.

**NOW RENTING FOR 2005-2006**  
**Call 353-5800**

### Hillsdale Apartments

1082 Fairview

• 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments &

• 3 Bedroom Townhouses

• Dishwasher

• Garbage Disposal

• Washer/Dryer Hook-ups (2/3bdrm)

• Carports

• BGSU Shuttle Stop

• Can Have up to 5 People on the lease

• Few open now!

### MECCA Evergreen Apartments

215 East Poe

• 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments &

• Efficiencies

• Laundry on Site

• BGSU Shuttle Stop

• 15 minutes walk to Math/Science

### MECCA Heinzsite Apartments

710 North Enterprise

• 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments

• Dishwasher

• Garbage Disposal

• Washer/Dryer in 2 Bedrooms

• Walk to Campus

• Few open now!

### MECCA Green Beaver Apts.

642 South College

• 2 Bedroom in House,

• Pets allowed

• 3 Bedroom Townhouses

• Can hold up to 5 people

• Loft style

• Washer/Dryer

• 1 1/2 baths / 2 Car Garage

**MECCA**

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For additional information, please contact:  
**Steve Eich** ([det1sje@ups.com](mailto:det1sje@ups.com))  
or **Jami Mulholland** ([jamiliee@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:jamiliee@bgnet.bgsu.edu))  
or call: 419-891-6820  
1550 Holland Road  
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